

ABSOLUTE RATING: **Excellent**
IMPROVEMENT RATING: **Excellent**

Number of high schools with students similar to ours: 37. The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to excellent. For the improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating
2001	Excellent	Excellent
2002		
2003		
2004		

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our School			Schools With Students Like Ours		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
• Passed all 3 subtests	67.8	75.4	84.1	66.2	70.3	73.5
• Passed 2 subtests	21.1	12.0	7.3	17.8	16.2	15.1
• Passed 1 subtest	8.2	10.8	6.7	10.0	8.9	7.5
• Passed no subtests	2.9	1.8	1.8	5.9	4.6	3.9

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS	Our School	Schools With Students Like Ours
% of seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships	11.6%	22.5%
% of seniors who met the SAT requirement	16.7%	24.1%
% of seniors who met the grade point average	50.0%	54.5%

Beginning in 2003, the graduation rate for each high school will be included in the school rating.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Seniors		
	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2001	Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships	Graduation Rate
All students	94.3%	11.6%	N/A until 2003
Students with disabilities other than speech	70.0%	0.0%	
Students without disabilities	95.9%	12.4%	
Gender			
Male	95.9%	7.8%	
Female	92.9%	14.9%	
Ethnic Group			
African American	100.0%	0.0%	
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	
White	94.1%	12.0%	
Other	N/A	N/A	
Lunch Status			
Free/reduced-price lunch	93.3%	11.8%	
Pay for lunch	94.4%	11.6%	

STUDENTS IN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES

Mastering core competencies	61.7%
Completers placed	N/A
Eligible students enrolled	32.7%

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,555	N/A	\$5,662	\$5,668
• Prime instructional time	94.3%	Up from 91.3%	90.3%	90.1%
• Student-teacher ratio	27.5 to 1	N/A	26.0 to 1	25.1 to 1
STUDENTS (n=778)				
• Advanced Placement/ Int'l Baccalaureate Program Exam Success Ratio	18.6%	N/A	51.1%	40.0%
• Attendance rate	97.8%	Up from 95.1%	95.2%	95.3%
• Retention rate	8.8%	Up from 3.7%	9.4%	10.0%
TEACHERS (n=45)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	6.3 Days	Up from 6.0	7.5 Days	7.5 Days
• Attendance rate	96.8%	Up from 96.7%	95.9%	95.7%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	51.1%	Down from 60.9%	53.8%	49.4%
• Continuing contract teachers	82.2%	Down from 89.1%	83.1%	81.0%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0.0%	Down from 2.2%	3.2%	3.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	83.9%	Down from 85.6%	86.3%	85.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$37,697	Up 1.9%	\$38,985	\$38,125

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median High School
SCHOOL				
• Dropout rate	2.4%	Down from 2.9%	3.0%	2.9%
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	51.5%	N/A	55.7%	56.4%
• Principal's years at the school	2.0	N/A	3.0	3.0
• Percent of parents attending conferences	87.3%	N/A	60.1%	60.1%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
STUDENTS				
• Older than usual for grade	5.0%	Up from 3.7%	9.1%	10.1%
• Suspended or expelled	11	N/A	27	29
• Gifted and talented	17.7%	Down from 22.4%	9.9%	7.4%
• With disabilities other than speech	15.7%	Up from 12.2%	10.9%	10.7%
• Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	1.2%	N/A	1.7%	4.5%
• Enrollment in career and technology center courses	254	N/A	397	350
• Career students participating in work-based experiences	6.4%	N/A	23.7%	23.1%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Innovation. Commitment to Excellence. Outstanding Performances. These are the pillars of the educational experience at Palmetto High School.

Innovation: The fall of 2001 is the starting point for the Freshman Academy. The academy, a year in the planning, is designed to turn the Freshman year into a time of success for our ninth graders. The academy will have a direct impact on student achievement, improving attendance, reduction in disciplinary referrals, and a great approach to solving transitional problems that ninth-graders typically experience. Test Preparation also debuts in August as a year-long class to prepare tenth-grade students for tests such as the Exit Exam, PSAT, PLAN, and others. This course is just a part of the overall effort to prepare students at PHS to perform at high levels in all performance areas. New course offerings at PHS give students an opportunity to expand their reach in areas such as Latin, AP Calculus, and Drama. For special needs students, a Living Assistance Lab offers opportunities to learn important life skills. The Transitional Outreach Program is one of several opportunities for students at PHS to get extra help. Technology is an important part of the innovations at PHS. Every room in the school is internet capable, and teachers integrate technology into their lesson plans.

Commitment to Excellence: Tenth Grade students scored among the state's highest on the Spring 2001 administration of the Exit Exam. Over 91 % of students passed the Math portion of the test, over 90% in Reading, and 93.3 % in reading. SAT scores were also among the state's highest. The average score was 1031, and the ACT composite average was 20.5. Sixty-seven percent of students taking the AP Biology. Six teachers are currently in the National Board Certification process, with one teacher already earning that status.

Outstanding Performances: PHS Students excelled in many competitions throughout the year, including winners in the Academic Olympics, French Declamation Contests, and the District Winner of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation award. Over 340 students were involved in fifteen varsity and junior varsity sports, a 20% increase in participation. Forty-eight students were honored in the school's Student of the Month Program, and eight teachers were named ACE (A Caring Educator) Teachers in a similar program operated by students. The Cross Country team earned their first state championship. The Marching Band earned third-place honors in the state band competition, as well as four Grand

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	97.3	72.6	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	97.3	79.7	
Satisfied with home-school relations	78.4	83.3	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Palmetto High
804 N. Hamilton Street
Williamston, SC 29697

Grades 9-12 High School

Enrollment: 778 Students

Principal

Mr. Mason Gary 864-847-7311

Superintendent

Dr. W. R. Christopher 864-847-7344

Board Chair

Fred Alexander 864-947-9346



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Excellent



South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com